

Application No.: 09/889971

Docket No.: 08577-00036-US

REMARKS

The applicant respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the amendment and following remarks. The applicants have incorporated objected claim 16 into claim 1. Support for newly added claim 22 can be found in claim 13. The applicants have written claim 13 into the independent form.

Claims 1, 8, 11, 12, 15 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Andrieu et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,429,759. Claims 9, 10, 13, 14 and 16-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In order to expedite prosecution, the applicants have incorporated the features of allowed claim 16 into independent claim 1. Dependent claims 8-15 and 17-21 are dependent upon claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons as claim 1. Independent claim 22 is allowable, since it is claim 13 written into the independent form. For the above reasons, this rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

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A one-month extension fee has been paid. However, if additional fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 08577-00036-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,

By

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